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May 14, 2012

**EX PARTE** 

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

Re:

Carriage of Digital Television Broadcast Signals:

Amendment to Part 76 of The Commission's Rules, CS Docket No. 98-120

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 10, 2012, Tom Wilson, Counsel, Sabin Bermant & Gould, and I met with Lyle Elder, Attorney-Advisor for Chairman Genachowski, to discuss the above-referenced proceeding. On behalf of Bright House Networks, LLC ("BHN"), we discussed the potential consumer impact if the Commission were to allow the Dual Carriage rule to sunset.

We emphasized that BHN is committed to minimizing any adverse consumer consequences that might otherwise be associated with terminating analog delivery of a must carry signal. In particular, BHN would provide ample notice to all customers of any such operational change and would explain how customers interested in maintaining access to a particular must carry signal could acquire digital reception capability through BHN or third-parties. We further noted that BHN would provide any affected broadcasters with prior notice. We also emphasized that BHN already makes digital converters available to customers subscribing only to the basic service tier for just \$1 per month.

Finally, we noted that BHN believes that the current Dual Carriage rule is counter to the public interest, because it requires cable operators to use valuable bandwidth in an inefficient manner. For example, BHN is particularly interested in using the additional bandwidth that might be liberated by a sunset of the Dual Carriage rule for enhanced broadband deployment.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions regarding these issues.

Very truly yours,

Steven I. Harvitz

cc: Lyle Elder